

Message Text

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41

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 EB-11 TRSE-00

COME-00 AID-20 OMB-01 XMB-07 INT-08 SCEM-02 DRC-01

(ADP) W

----- 071835

R 121123Z SEP 73

FM USINT CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3759

AMEMBASSY PARIS

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN

USINT ALGIERS

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EG

SUBJECT: SADAT PRESS CONFERENCE

1. SEPTEMBER 12 CAIRO PRESS RUNS WHAT PURPORTS TO BE FULL TEXT
OF INTERVIEW SADAT HELD IN ALGIERS WITH CORRESPONDENT FROM
LE MONDE. SUMMARY FOLLOWS.

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(A) OIL AS A WEAPON. SADAT SAID ARABS WOULD USE OIL

AS WEAPON IN THE BATTLE, BUT HE WOULD NOT DISCLOSE STRATEGY.

(B) EGYPTIAN/ALGERIAN RELATIONS. SADAT NOTED THAT ALGERIA, SYRIA AND LIBYA WERE ALL OPPOSED TO SC RES 242, BUT THIS MEANT NO PROFOUND DIFFERENCE IN RELATIONS BETWEEN EGYPT AND ALGERIA. REGARDING MAGHREB'S SUGGESTING FOR LIBYAN, TUNISIAN, ALGERIAN UNION, SADAT NOTED THAT "EGYPT ALWAYS SUPPORTS UNITY OF ARAB WORLD," BUT WAS OPPOSED TO ANY IMPORTED UNITY OF FOREIGN FABRICATION.

(C) US/SOVIET DETENTE. DESPITE DETENTE, SADAT SAID MANY FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES EXISTED BETWEEN US AND SOVIET UNION. ME IS EXAMPLE WHERE US GIVES ISRAEL MOST MODERN WEAPONS AND FULL POLITICAL SUPPORT; ON OTHER HAND, SOVIETS FAVOR PEACEFUL SOLUTION AND DO NOT WANT WAR. SADAT NOTED THAT PROOF OF THIS WAS FACT THAT SOVIETS DO NOT GIVE ARABS UP-TO-DATE WEAPONRY. SOVIETS HAD NEVER ASKED EGYPT TO BECOME THEIR BRIDGEHEAD, ALTHOUGH ISRAEL WAS US BRIDGEHEAD IN ME.

(D) ME SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATIONS. SADAT SAID ISRAEL MUST WITHDRAW FIRST, BEFORE NEGOTIATIONS COULD OCCUR.

(E) SUEZ CANAL. SADAT SAID HE HAD NOT ASKED ISRAEL OR US TO REOPEN CANAL. HE NOTED PROBLEM IS THE AGGRESSION IN PALESTINE AND NOT REOPENING THE CANAL, WHICH EGYPT VIEWS AS A SECONDARY MATTER.

(F) SUMED. SADAT WAS ASKED IF SUMED WAS AMONG EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN EGYPT. SADAT SAID "FRANCE IS INDEED HELPING US . . . BUT THE SUMED PROJECT IS SOMETHING ELSE." HE NOTED THAT EGYPT WAS NOT AT ALL PLEASED WITH EUROPEAN CONSORTIUM AND THIS WAS WHY HE HAD "SECURED THE AID OF OUR ARAB BROTHER TOWARDS THAT PROJECT." HE NOTED THAT CONSORTIUM HAD RAISED ITS PRICES, CAUSED MUCH TROUBLE AND WASTED MUCH TIME.

(G) EGYPT'S FUTURE STRATEGY. SADAT SAID EGYPT WOULD NOT GIVE UP AN INCH OF LAND; WOULD SEEK PEACE BASED ON JUSTICE; AND WOULD NOT AGREE TO COMPROMISE ON PALESTINIAN

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QUESTION. HE SAID THAT ANY DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS WHILE OCCUPATION CONTINUED WOULD LEAD TO SURRENDER, AND REPEATED THAT ISRAEL MUST WITHDRAW BEFORE NEGOTIATIONS COULD BEGIN.

(H) PALESTINIANS. SADAT WAS ASKED HIS VIEW ON QUESTION OF ISRAEL LOSING ITS IDENTITY IF IT ACCEPTED RETURN OF PALESTINIAN REFUGEES ACCORDING TO UN RESOLUTIONS. HE SAID: QUOTE: WHY DO WE NOT BEGIN WITH THE EVACUATION OF THE

OCCUPIED LANDS, THEN, LATER, DISCUSS THE SITUATION OF THE PALESTINIANS. IN ANY CASE, I DO NOT WANT TO SPEAK IN THE NAME OF THE PALESTINIANS--THEY ALONE HAVE THE RIGHT TO TALK ABOUT THEMSELVES. END QUOTE.

(I) NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT. SADAT SAID HE WAS SATISFIED WITH SUMMIT RESULTS AND NOTED IMPORTANCE OF BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS DURING CONFERENCE.

2. FOR PARIS: WOULD APPRECIATE TRANSLATION OF FRENCH VERSION OF SADAT'S REMARKS ON PALESTINIANS, WHICH SUGGEST A NEW ELEMENT IN HIS VIEWS ON SUBJECT.

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